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ABSTRACT

An imaging container (3) for containing fluorescent particles dyed with a fluorescent dye collectively at the bottom is provided. If the container contains a substance having a high transmittance to exciting light such as a blood platelet derivative or a diluted red blood cell derivative, a mirror (20) is removed from the optical path, and only the portion near the bottom of the container are irradiated from a side with the exciting light. Even if the solution in the container contains a fluorescent dye, the fluorescence is prevented from acting as disturbing light. If the container contains a substance having a low transmittance to exciting light such as a high-concentration red blood cell derivative, the mirror (20) is placed in the optical path, and the bottom of the container is irradiated from below. In this case, since transmittance is low, the exciting light reaches only the portion near the bottom, and fluorescence acting as background light is hardly produced. Even if the transmittance to the exciting light is different, illumination corresponding to the transmittance can be selected, and therefore the fluorescent particles can be counted correctly.